

**REMARKS**

In the final Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-13 as anticipated by GESSEL et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,954); rejects claims 2 and 34-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over GESSEL et al. in view of SCHULT et al., "Routing in Mobile Ad Hoc Networks," Military Communications Conference Proceedings, 1999, Vol. 1, pp. 10-14; allows claims 14-18, 20-28, and 30-33, and objects to claim 5 as containing allowable subject matter.

By way of the present amendment, Applicants propose canceling claims 3-5, 13, and 34-38 without prejudice or disclaimer and amending claims 1 and 6-8 to improve form. Claims 1, 2, 6-12, 14-18, 20-28, and 30-33 would remain pending upon entry of the present amendment.

At the outset, Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 14-18, 20-28, and 30-33 are allowable over the art of record and that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form to include all the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants propose amending claim 1 to include the features of claim 5 and claims 3 and 4, from which claim 5 depends. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is now in condition for immediate allowance. Moreover, since claims 2 and 6-12 depend from claim 1, these claims are also in condition for immediate allowance.

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by GESSEL et al. and claims 2 and 34-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over GESSEL et al. in view of SHULT et al. Applicants propose canceling claims 3, 4, 13, and 34-38, thereby rendering the rejection of those claims moot. Moreover, as set forth above, Applicants propose amending claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 5. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable over the art of record. Moreover, since claims 2 and 6-12 depend from claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the art of record.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the present amendment since the amendment places the application in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. BBNT-P01-112 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 26, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Edward A. Gordon

Registration No.: 54,130

ROPES & GRAY LLP

One International Place

Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2624

(617) 951-7000

(617) 951-7050 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant